

The John D. Larkins, Jr. Federal Building Trenton, North Carolina H 20

Courtesy of the Publisher

The John Larkins, Jr., Federal Building, completed in 1966 and dedicated January 1968, is located in an area whose history parallels that of the United States. The town of Trenton, county seat of Jones County, North Carolina, is listed in the National Register of Historic Places due to a group of buildings whose vernacular architecture—predominantly nineteenth century with twentieth century fill — graces the small market Town. The "new" Federal Building sits adjacent to the Jones County Courthouse which was constructed in 1936 during the Works Project Administration, and near a jail built around 1867 of brick taken from an earlier jail that was burned by the Yankees.

The Dedication of the Federal Building was a big event in peacefully rural Jones County. The principal speaker was U.S. Senior Senator Sam J. Ervin, Junior. Senator B. Everett Jordan, and Congressmen David N. Henderson and Walter B. Jones were also on the platform. United States Eastern District Judge, John D. Larkins, whose offices were, and are still, in the Building, served as Master of ceremonies. Judge Larkins had moved to



Trenton 38 years earlier, and at that time he lived in a house which sat on the site of the Federal Building.

In December, 1980, an act was passed which designated the building as the "John D. Larkins, Jr., Federal Building." Due to the judge's long career serving the citizens of eastern North Carolina, this action was most appropriate.

Born in Morristown, Tennessee, in June, 1909, John Larkins attended the public schools of Cedartown and Hazelhurst, Georgia, before the family mov-

ed to North Carolina. In 1925, at age 15, he graduated from Greensboro High School.

By washing dishes, waiting tables and working as a janitor, he was able to put himself through Wake Forest College.

Since he passed the bar exam when he was 20, before he was old enough to receive a license, he went to Charlotte and joined the staff of a practicing attorney. In Charlotte he met his wife, Pauline Murrill. They were married in March, 1930; and shortly thereafter, he reached the age of 21 and received his license to practice.

At the suggestion of a friend, Larkins decided to locate in Trenton and set up his practice in the harness room of a mule stable. By the summer of 1931, the future looked promising, and he was able to move his office to the old Bank of Jones Building.

Larkins was elected to the Senate in 1936 and served until 1953, except for the year 1945 when he volunteered for armed services duty. He was the youngest member of the State Legislature for several years. In 1941, he was President Pro-Tem of the Senate, in 1951 and 1953 he was the Appropriations Committee Chairman and in 1955-1956 he was Liaison Officer and Legislative Counsel to Governor Hodges.

Judge Larkins has been active in Democratic party work since he was old enough to vote. In fact, he has been called "Mr. Jackson Day Dinner" because he has chaired the annual fund-raising event more often than any other person.

continued

Larkins became a United States Judge for the Eastern District in August, 1961, upon his appointment by President Kennedy. In August, 1975, he was elevated to the position of Chief Judge of the district and serves now as Senior District Judge. During his career he has been served by 37 law clerks; a secretary with 34 years experience, and countless other staff members such as bailiff-court criers and court reporters.

When Senator Jesse Helms introduced the legislation to name the Federal Building after Judge Larkins he said, "What has made this man an institution in Eastern North Carolina is not just outstanding legal and political achievements, but his human and personal qualities. In a day and age when people feel increasingly alienated from their public officials and many federal judges have become arrogant and removed from the citizen's pulse-beat, Judge Larkins remains a true man of the people...After

court is over for the day and other judges may hide themselves in the company of the powerful, sipping cocktails amidst high-priced cigars and esoteric discussions, Judge Larkins is found among the people... His courtroom is no different. While properly maintaining the dignity and decorum of a courtroom, there is always that comfortable feeling among lawyers, clerks, jurors, and witnesses that it is really not much different from being at home. The experience of most people in Judge Larkins' court — except perhaps for the convicted defendant — is always a pleasant one... long after the juries' verdicts have been forgotten and his decisions are buried in the cobwebbed law books, his good humor, warmth, and congeniality will live on..."

The Federal Building which graces the town of Trenton is a fitting tribute to Judge Larkins' long and noteworthy career. A lifesize bust of the judge by artist-sculptor

Willie Taglieri of New Bern, North Carolina stands in the hall of the Federal Building. In the entrance of the Chamber showcase displays several flags which have flown over the U.S. Capitol, one commemorating the 23 years of service Senior District Judge Larkins completed in August 1984, and others commemorating his years of service as Chief Judge and U.S. District Judge.

Source: *The Jones Post*

'Elder Statesmen' Of Trenton

H 59

The self-proclaimed "elder statesmen of Jones County" consists of several retired black men, not always the same ones, who have made it a daily practice for the last few years to meet on the cement steps between the Trenton Hair Styling building and Hamilton's Drug Store or on the stoop of the law office of Jimmie Proctor and Darrius Koonce on Jones Street in the center of the town of Trenton.

"We meet here together everyday except Sunday when the weather is good," says Caleb Dove, and 11-year retiree of Jenkins Gas in Pollocksville. "We're just sort of a collection of senior citizen spokesmen for Jones County, you could say." Their main purpose for meeting is simple. "We meet to solve the problems of the world and the discussions range from politics to religion," said Albert Brown who retired 30 years ago from Camp Lejeune. The group is about as familiar to everyday goings on in Trenton as Aunt Bee is to Mayberry. Also discussed is the changing attitude of the youngsters today and their use of drugs and involvement in other things. "Most of the men here grew up together, played ball together, and we've still remained friends. Seems like we just didn't fool with things like drugs when we were growing up," says Charlie Brown, another of the group. Richard Jones, a Jones County native who moved away to New York says, "I'm a Trenton boy at heart, too, and after I retired, I just had to move back here to home." The men all agreed that nothing much changes in Trenton, but getting together gives the retirees something to do, whether it's a lively discussion or just watching the cars go by.

*Source: Excerpts from The Sun Journal, New Bern
By Tony Taylor - April 25, 1986*

We all have eight great-grandparents and sixteen great-great grandparents. Nine generations beyond your parents produce 1,024 direct ancestors.

★ Brock Mill ★ H 54

Brock Mill of Trenton has had this name since 1900 when the Brock Family bought the pond. The size of the pond is misleading. Only part of its 100 acres can be seen from the highway, but it winds back for several miles where it is fed by Crooked Run as well as underground springs. The pond has an outlet through Trent River. Its water level is controlled by the raising or lowering of the gates at the millhouse.

Brock Millpond is listed among other historical places in the **National Historical Register**. The pond dates back prior to the American Revolution. The original mill site dam was built by slave labor during the 1700's. Records seem to indicate that there has been a mill house on this site for more than 200 years. Information prior to 1779 is sketchy, but since that date, records are more precise.

Before 1779, Richard Sharp and Elizabeth Reynolds of Craven County owned the pond. In 1779, Lewis Bryan bought it from Sharp and Reynolds. He owned it for 17 years, and it was sold at his death as last will and testament to Anthony Hatch in 1796. Thus, it became known as Hatch's Mill. Hatch owned the mill for 27 years. Upon his death, his lands were divided and in 1823, Joseph Bryan paid \$1500 for the mill. When Bryan died, his daughter, Ann Bryan Huggins, inherited the property. She and her husband, Jacob Huggins, were forced to sell the land at public auction because of a suit brought against them.

On August 19, 1833, William Huggins bought the pond and land attached for \$2626. Then on August 20, 1833, William Huggins sold back all the property that he had purchased the day before, to Jacob Huggins for the same amount of \$2626. Jacob and Ann Bryan Huggins kept the mill for one year before James McDaniel bought it in 1834 for \$3500. McDaniel kept it for 45 years. From the time that Hatch bought the mill, it was known as Hatch's Mill. But when McDaniel purchased the property, it became known as McDaniel's Mill. So from 1834 until 1900, the mill was called McDaniel's Mill.

During the period between 1834 and 1900, there were several other owners. E. R. and Olivia Page were owners after McDaniel. They owned it from 1879 to 1889. In turn, they sold it for debts in 1889 to Sara and Charles Reizenstein of New Bern for \$7300. Then in 1893, J. P. Brogden of Craven County paid \$3500 for the property. Brogden operated the mill, but, as he found himself in financial difficulties, he sold it in 1900 to W. H. Hammond and Furnifold Brock. After one year, in 1901, Fur-

nifold Brock bought out Hammond and deeded the millpond to his wife, Myrtle F. Brock.

The Brocks resumed operation of the mill and added a saw mill and a cotton gin. The cotton gin was installed in the three-story mill house. This type of gin used the method of pressing the bales of cotton in the press until it would hold no more. The bagging and ties were then placed around the bales. This first gin was run by water from the pond. It was a slow method; so a few years later, a steam boiler was installed which furnished power for two steam presses. Then another gin was added. The two gins operated for over 42 years until the boll weevil damaged the cotton; therefore, making cotton production unprofitable. In 1944, the gin was closed and in 1947, it was torn down.

In 1917, Furnifold Brock installed a turbine in the mill house. A room was built around the generator. Late in the afternoon, the turbine would be turned on, therefore furnishing Trenton with electricity. After a few years, the franchise was sold to the Tidewater Power Company and later to Carolina Power and Light Company. During the time that electricity was being generated, the mill was still being operated for the purpose of grinding corn into meal, grits, and cracking corn.

Shortly after purchasing the mill, Brock discarded one set of rocks. They were "soft" rock and would not hold an edge. The Brocks had a grist mill at Cypress Creek on Jack Cabin Creek. Around 1910, the rocks from this mill were brought to Trenton to replace the "soft" rock. They remain there today.

In 1944, the gates and underpinnings washed away from under the old mill, which was constructed in 1861. The owners decided to tear down the old mill and replace it. They made a spillway where the old building was and did away with the paddles and installed turbines in the water house of the new building.

In 1945, Myrtle F. Brock deeded Brock Millpond to her children; Lois Brock, Furnifold I. Brock, Dr. M. Foscue Brock, Myrtle F. Brock, Evelyn W. Brock, Sue Lina Brock Jones, Frank K. Brock, and Eleanor Brock. That same year, Frank K. Brock and his wife, Sydney D. Brock, deeded their one-eighth interest to Eleanor Brock. The grist mill ceased operation in 1964; however, all the machinery is still in place. The current owners, Charles C. Jones, Jr., Sue Brock Jones Miller, and Elizabeth Jones Waters, all Brock descendants, took over the millpond in 1969. The property has been in the Brock Family for 84 years—longer than any other owner.

—Charles and Jean Jones

Sources: Family Records
Courthouse Records
Deeds, etc.

Biographical Sketch

Faced with the problem of writing a biographical sketch of a convicted counterfeiter, one family historian came up with the following description: "He is an expert engraver; formerly self-employed, he is now under a long term contract with the Federal Government."

—Mrs. Newell R. Washburn

DUPLIN COUNTY BROADCASTERS

WBSY

TRENTON, NORTH CAROLINA

ENGINEERING EXHIBIT

August 1995

William Culpepper & Associates
900 Jefferson Drive
Charlotte, NC 28270

DUPLIN COUNTY BROADCASTERS

TRENTON, NORTH CAROLINA

TABLE OF CONTENTS

	<u>PAGE</u>	<u>FIGURE</u>
DECLARATION	1	
NARRATIVE	2	
IDENTIFICATION OF NON-OWNED STATIONS SHOWN ON FIGURE 1	3	
OTHER SERVICES MAP		1

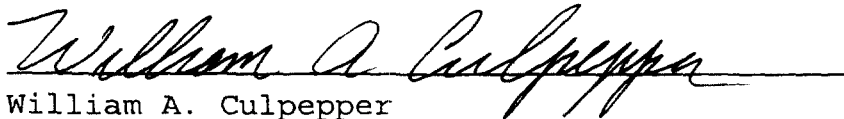
DUPLIN COUNTY BROADCASTERS

TRENTON, NORTH CAROLINA

DECLARATION

I declare, under penalty of perjury, that I have prepared the attached Engineering Exhibit for Duplin County Broadcasters, and that all of the facts therein, except for facts of which the Federal Communications Commission may take official notice, are true to the best of my knowledge and belief; and that I am a Registered Professional Engineer in the State of North Carolina.

Executed on August 23, 1995.

A handwritten signature in dark ink, reading "William A. Culpepper", written over a horizontal line.

William A. Culpepper

900 Jefferson Drive
Charlotte, NC 28270
704-365-9995

DUPLIN COUNTY BROADCASTERS

TRENTON, NORTH CAROLINA

NARRATIVE

This exhibit supports the attached Reply Comment of Duplin County Broadcasters in connection with its proposed upgrade of WBSY(FM) from class A to class C2 and re-assignment from Rose Hill, North Carolina to Trenton, North Carolina.

The map of Figure 1 shows the 60 dBu contour of WBSY with maximum class A facilities at the present site, the 60 dBu contours of other FM stations, and the 0.5 mV/m contour of AM station WLSE. This map demonstrates that there are now at least five other services, in addition to WEGG (Rose Hill), everywhere within the present WBSY 60 dBu contour.

Class A and class C contours have been calculated on the basis of licensed facilities, while class C1, Class C2 and Class C3 contours have been calculated on the basis of the maximum power and height for the class. Terrain has been taken into account on all FM contours. All contours are those of licensed stations. No contours of pending construction permits have been used. The WBSY contour has been calculated using six kilowatts and 100 meters HAAT at the present site.

The AM contour was calculated using figure M-3. The "Equivalent Distance Method" was used to accommodate changes in ground conductivity, where appropriate.

Both AM and FM contours were calculated at 5 degree intervals. The numbers inside the contours indicate the available services, not including WBSY.

As can be seen on the map, a minimum of five other services are available at every point within the present WBSY 60 dBu contour. These services are in addition to that of WEGG(AM), which will retain its Rose Hill assignment.

DUPLIN COUNTY BROADCASTERS

TRENTON, NORTH CAROLINA

IDENTIFICATION OF STATIONS SHOWN ON FIGURE 1

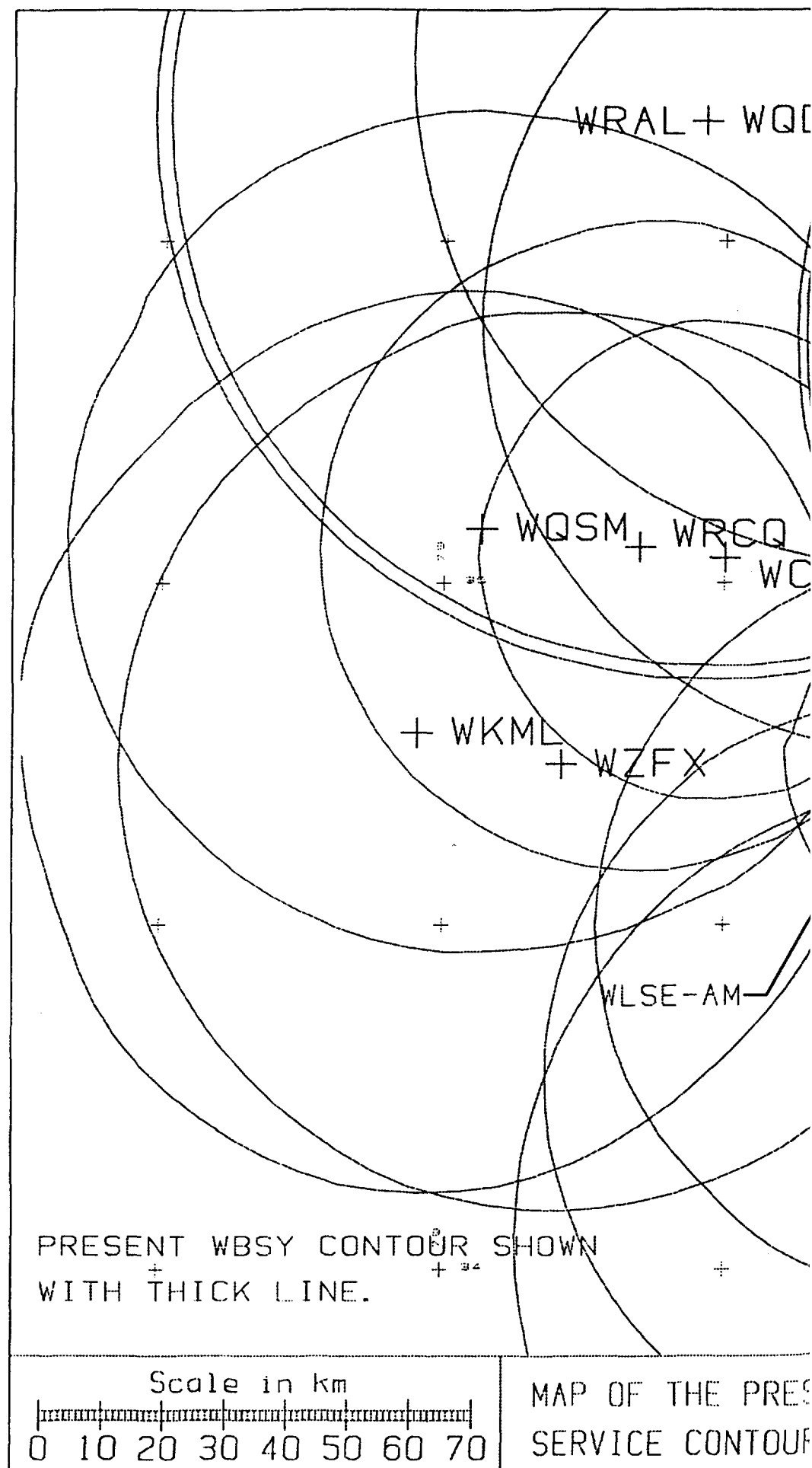
FM STATIONS

WQSL CH 222C2 JACKSONVILLE, NC
WDLX CH 227C WASHINGTON, NC
WZKB CH 232A WALLACE, NC
WQDR CH 234C RALEIGH, NC
WRNS CH 236C KINSTON, NC
WKML CH 239C LUMBERTON, NC
WKTC CH 245C GOLDSBORO, NC
WMNX CH 247C1 WILMINGTON, NC
WQSM CH 251C1 FAYETTEVILLE, NC
WKO0 CH 254C1 JACKSONVILLE, NC
WAFX CH 256C1 WHITEVILLE, NC
WKXB CH 260C1 BURGAW, NC
WRAL CH 268C RALEIGH, NC
WIKS CH 270C1 NEW BERN, NC
WGNI CH 274C1 WILMINGTON, NC
WRCQ CH 278C2 DUNN, NC
WZXS CH 280C3 TOPSAIL BEACH, NC
WRDU CH 291C WILSON, NC
WSFL CH 293C1 NEW BERN, NC
WCLN CH 297C3 CLINTON, NC
WNCT CH 300 GREENVILLE, NC

AM STATION

WLSE 1400 KHZ WALLACE, NC

Note: This list does not include AM station WEGG, which will remain licensed to Rose Hill.



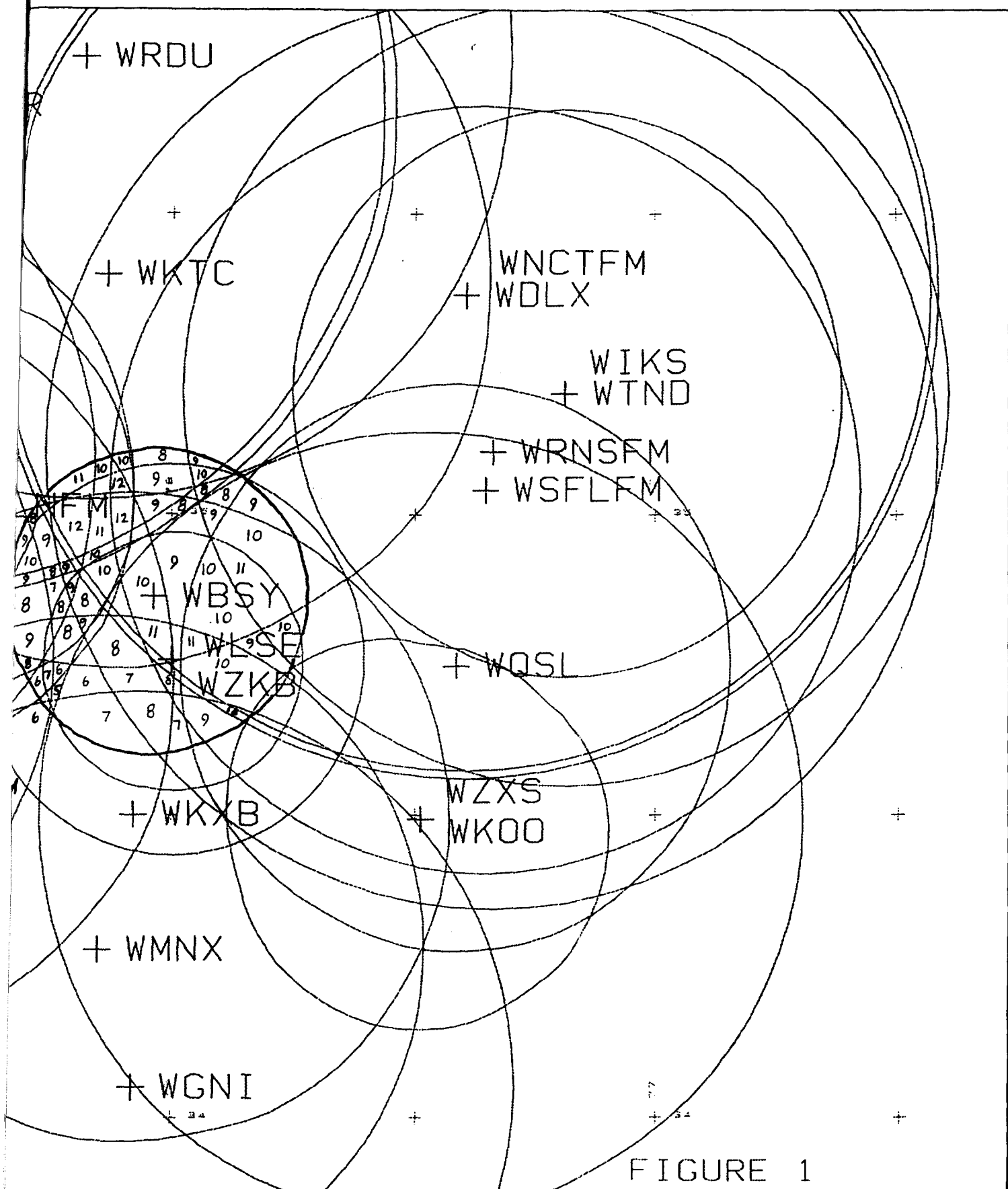


FIGURE 1

SENT WBSY 60 dBu AND THE
RS OF OTHER STATIONS

DUPLIN COUNTY BROADCASTERS
TRENTON, NORTH CAROLINA

DECLARATION

Patricia Pratt hereby declares as follows:

1. I have been an employee of WEGG(AM), Rose Hill, North Carolina, for ten years, and am a life-long resident of the Wallace-Rose Hill area.

2. I have worn many hats at WEGG(AM). Over the years, I have served as News Director, Sales Manager, and morning air talent. Since February 1995, I have served as Operational Manager of WEGG(AM) and co-owned WBSY(FM), Rose Hill, North Carolina. I also presently do a daily 4-hour morning show, "Early Morning Sounds Of The Gospel," which is simulcast on WEGG(AM) and WBSY(FM).

3. WBSY(FM) simulcasts a substantial part of the WEGG(AM) program schedule. WBSY(FM) not only simulcasts my show, which features gospel music, news reports, and community news, but also the afternoon farm show. WBSY(FM) signs on daily at 5:30 AM, but signs off during the late night hours.

4. For several years, according to the Arbitron ratings service, WEGG(AM) has been the #1-rated station in the Duplin-Sampson-Pender market. Although I have submitted information to Arbitron to have WBSY(FM) considered in the ratings, WBSY(FM) has not yet appeared in the Arbitron ratings.

5. Under penalty of perjury, the foregoing is true and correct to my personal knowledge.


Patricia Pratt

Dated: August 23, 1995

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I, Veronica Pierce, do hereby certify that a true and correct copy of the foregoing "Reply Comments of Duplin County Broadcasters" has been served upon the following individuals by U.S. Mail on this 25th day of August, 1995.

* John A. Karousos, Esq.
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Policy and Rules Division
Federal Communications Commission
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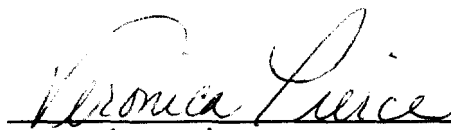
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